

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/642,340

Examiner

Benjamin R. Bruckart

Applicant(s)

GRAY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 3/24/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 4-10, 12-26 renumbered to claims 1-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview and email with Frank Chou, registration number 34,136, on 5/17/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Please replace claims 1, 4, 9, 12 with the below:

1. A system for controlling and coordinating activities among entities in an information and process environment comprising:
 - a) a communications pathway for transmitting and receiving communications of said entities; and
 - b) a shared memory connected to said communications pathway for maintaining a tuple space on which said entities post and receive messages, said tuple space synchronized with a clock that defines discrete time intervals as reference points for operations on said tuple space, wherein said entities include at least one entity that asserts a tuple on said tuple space signaling its intention to perform an action and asserts an anti-tuple on said tuple space for evaluating outcomes of said intention; and at least one further entity which asserts an anti-tuple for detecting said intentions; said system further comprises a process in communication with at least one entity for monitoring said action and, in the event that said entity overrides the evaluated responses, reporting said action to an authority.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein said tuples include a duration parameter for limiting the duration thereof in said tuple space.

9. A method for controlling and coordinating activities among entities in an information and process environment comprising the steps of:

a) providing a communications pathway for transmitting and receiving communications of said entities;

b) providing a tuple space in a shared memory, said tuple space synchronized with a clock for operation in discrete time intervals, and connected to said communications pathway; and

c) using said discrete time intervals as reference points, posting and receiving messages of said entities to and from said tuple space,

wherein said entities include at least one entity that asserts a tuple on said tuple space signaling its intention to perform an action and asserts an anti-tuple on said tuple space for evaluating responses to said intention; and

at least at one further entity which asserts an anti-tuple for detecting said intentions; said method further comprising (d) monitoring said action and, in the event that at least one entity overrides the evaluated responses, reporting said action to an authority.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein said tuples include a duration parameter for limiting the duration thereof in said tuple space.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent Claims 1, 9, 17, and 26 renumbered to claims 1, 8, 15, 23 among other things teach the limitations "a communications pathway for transmitting and receiving communications of said entities; a shared memory connected to said communications pathway for maintaining a tuple space on which said entities post and receive messages, said tuple space synchronized with a clock that defines discrete time intervals as reference points for operations on said tuple space, wherein said entities include at least one entity that asserts a tuple on said tuple space signaling its intention to perform an action and asserts and anti-tuple on said tuple space for evaluating outcomes of said intention; and at least at one further entity which asserts an anti-tuple for detecting said intentions; said system further comprises a process in communication with at least one entity for monitoring said action and, in the event that said entity overrides the evaluated responses, reporting said action to an authority" in the environment of a system for controlling and coordinating activities among entities in an information and processes further defining the messages as tuples and anti-tuples and the duration parameter is a multiple of discrete time intervals in combination with the dependent claims.

The prior art does not teach the cited limitation.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CORRESPONDANCE INFORMATION

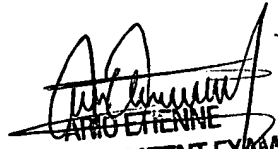
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin R Bruckart whose telephone number 571-272-3982. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-3982.

Benjamin R Bruckart
Examiner
Art Unit 2155
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ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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